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### **2018 White House Christmas Tree Selected**

Littleton, CO – (September 24, 2018) – On a mid-September morning, Christmas tree grower, Larry Smith of Mountain Top Fraser Fir waited for the arrival of special guests from our nation's capital who were sent here to select the 2018 White House Christmas tree. White House Chief Usher, Timothy Harleth and White House Superintendent of Grounds, Dale Haney arrived at the appointed field in rural Newland, North Carolina to look over dozens of choice firs in order to select the perfect tree.

Last summer, Smith was named Grand Champion in the National Christmas Tree Association's Christmas tree contest. With this award, goes the honor of presenting a Christmas tree to the White House. Mr. Smith is celebrating his win, after 4 previous attempts to win the honor of providing a tree to the White House.

After much searching, measuring and consultation with Mr. Haney, Chief Usher Harleth selected a 19 ½ foot tall Fraser fir to be displayed in the Blue Room of the White House this holiday season. This special tree has to fit exact and particular specifications to go on display in such a historic room

"I feel as though I have finally won the Super Bowl, It's a great honor to represent the Christmas tree industry by providing the Official White House Christmas Tree in 2018."

Members of the National Christmas Tree Association have presented the official White House Christmas Tree for display in the Blue Room since 1966. 2018 will mark the 53<sup>rd</sup> year a member from the National Christmas Tree Association has presented the official White House Christmas Tree.

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### **About the National Christmas Tree Association (NCTA)**

The National Christmas Tree Association is the national trade association representing the farm-grown Christmas tree industry. NCTA represents hundreds of active member farms, 29 state and regional associations and nearly 4,000 affiliated businesses that grow and sell Christmas trees or provide related services. For information on real Christmas tree selection and care tips, or to find a Christmas tree farm or lot in your area, please visit [www.realchristmastrees.org](http://www.realchristmastrees.org)